

the emergence of B's males, i.e. at or just after dawn, release their pheromone and trust that this assembles B's freshly emerged males to them.

This is a somewhat convoluted argument, but it has its attractions. The isolated nature of known UK populations of *B. douglasii* fit this model well, its distribution (MBGBI 2, 1985) being Hampshire, Worcestershire and both vice-counties of Kent. However, in view of the large distances between these areas it is doubtful whether we should consider these colonies as a metapopulation in the sense of our theoretical A and B colonies.

A further occurrence of note occurred with the emergence of the F₂ generation. Protandry was again in evidence, as out of a total of 30 males emergences, 29 (96.7%) occurred between 25.i–20.ii, while all the female emergences occurred between 21.ii and 10.iii.2001. However, it is interesting to note that the total number of F₂ females involved was only 3, and that one of these (33%) emerged many days after the last male had died. The biasing of the sex ratio of psychids has been reported before, see for example Baker's entry for *Psyche casta* (Baker, 1994). However, this is usually in favour of the female sex. I am not aware of an almost exclusive male emergence being reported with any members of this group.

It would be interesting to learn of others' experience in rearing this moth, especially if there are data concerning the emergence dates and sex ratios for wild pupae.

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SHORT COMMUNICATION

***Dipogon bifasciatus* (Geoffroy in Fourcroy) (Hym., Pompilidae) in Derbyshire.**—A spider wasp was found investigating the nooks and crannies in the rugged bark of an ancient open-grown parkland oak in Alderwasley Park (SK336527), Derbyshire, 31.vii.2001. The specimen was sent with a batch of aculeates to Mike Edwards for identification. It proved to be *Dipogon bifasciatus*, a species listed in the British Red Data Book as "Rare" in Shirt (1987) and Falk (1991), and having a very southern distribution—Suffolk and Bedfordshire the counties furthest north with confirmed records.

Alderwasley Park is an old deer park on the plateau behind the National Trust's Shining Cliff Woods, overlooking Crich Chase in the Derwent valley to the south of Matlock. The general area includes a substantial number of ancient open-grown oak trees—relicts of an earlier landscape.

Thanks to Mike Edwards.—K.N.A. ALEXANDER, 14 Partridge Way, Cirencester, Gloucestershire GL7 1BQ.

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